

**OLDER ADULT PERFORMANCE OUTCOME PILOT  
COMMITTEE MEETING SYNOPSIS  
July 20, 2000**

Jim Higgins, Department of Mental Health (DMH), led introductions and reviewed the agenda (Attachment 1). Representatives from the following counties were present: Astrid Beigel and Laura Trejo (Los Angeles County), Mary Flett (Santa Clara County), Carmen Stitt and Victor Contreras (Sacramento County), Sharon Lopez (Shasta County), and Luanna Smith (Tuolumne County). Chester Cochran represented consumers; and Jim Higgins, Karen Purvis, and Traci Fujita represented the DMH Research and Performance Outcome Development Unit.

The following agenda items were discussed:

- County Reports. Pilot county representatives each provided a brief status report on their county's progress. Most counties have completed or are close to completion of their second administration of the instruments.
- General discussion. Committee members re-visited two issues related to performance outcome data: data useful at the clinical level may not be useful at the system level (do not aggregate up), and the need to reach clients not now being included in performance outcomes. Astrid Beigel emphasized the need to clarify the questions being asked before determining where to obtain answers. The group also discussed the importance of obtaining accurate, complete data. Mary Flett has found it beneficial to hold focus groups and provide feedback to clinicians.
- First Administration Results. Karen Purvis briefly went through a large packet of material summarizing first administration demographic and instrument results. This material had been mailed earlier to committee members to allow time for review before the meeting. The first report summarized pilot demographic results in three ways (by ethnicity, by diagnosis, and by gender). The committee provided helpful feedback on the clarity and reasonableness of these results and also suggested putting them in context by including comparison results from other sources (e.g., overall statewide numbers or results from other private or federal reports). Some pilot results are based on very small numbers and will need cautionary notes regarding interpretation.

A second packet summarized first administration instrument results. For each instrument, the committee discussed whether the results made sense and whether they would be useful for our purposes. This will be an ongoing discussion that will be continued in subsequent meetings.

- Topics for the Next Older Adult Meeting. Traci Fujita will prepare a draft face sheet for committee review, incorporating some of the suggested changes. Additionally, Karen Purvis will prepare a draft matrix of the CMHPC domain coverage of the instruments.
- The next meeting of the Older Adult Performance Outcome Pilot committee was scheduled for Monday, August 14, 2000.